

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
30-JULY-96
TAG REVIEW DATE: 24 APRIL 1997**

Site Name	Camp Iron Mountain	Camp Granite
Site Number	J09CA028400	J09CA704300
City	Rice	Granite
County	San Bernardino	Riverside
State	California	California
Project Number	J09CA028401	J09CA704301
Category	OE	OE
INPR RAC	2	4
ASR RAC	2	5
TAG RAC	2	5

2. POC's:

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3. SITE DESCRIPTION:

The former Camp Iron Mountain is located in an undeveloped region of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, California, 14 miles west of Rice, California.

Camp Iron Mountain was used by five armored divisions and a number of other units as an encampment and maneuver area. The only permanent improvements were a chapel, an altar, and a graded contour simulation map depicting the Desert Training Center (DTC). Presently, the land is used as a recreational and wildlife conservation area. The entire *encampment* area is surrounded by a four-foot-high fence with turnstiles added to permit pedestrian access. Vehicular access to the original roadway network is now prohibited.

Camp Granite, while given a separate DERP-FUDS number, is wholly contained within the FUDS Camp Iron Mountain. According to the INPR, the camp had to be relocated. The first encampment was built closer to the current California state highway 62, but was moved to higher and dryer ground following problems generated by runoff from the Granite Mountains. The second encampment was an east-west running, temporary tent camp roughly three miles long and approximately one-mile wide. The Findings and Determination of Eligibility (FDE) for Camp Granite accounts for 3,200 acres, which covers only one of the two locations. For the purposes of this ASR, the actual acreage of the two encampments (7,000 acres) will be used.

4. SITE HISTORY:

In 1942, the War Department acquired 67,907.5 acres through public land transfer from the U.S. Department of the Interior and leases from the Metropolitan Water district of Southern California. The site was used as a divisional camp during World War II troop training maneuvers by General George Patton, Jr. The divisional camp was one of many associated with the Desert Training Center/California-Arizona Maneuver Area (DTC/CAMA). Ordnance used consisted of medium and large caliber munitions, landmines, grenades, rockets, artillery shells, and small arms. **ALive** ammunition was used in addition to practice ammunition because the DTC commanders wanted realism in the training and maneuvers.

The property was declared excess March 30, 1944. On two different occasions between 1944 and 1952, the Department of the Army and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conducted range clearance operations. Again from 17-30 May 1964, the DOD used the DTC/CAMA for a military exercise code name, Desert Strike.

In 1977, Camp Iron Mountain was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. The property is currently under the control of BLM.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

AREA AA@

Size, Acres:	4,926
Former Use:	Camp Iron Mountain <i>Encampment</i> Area
Present Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Probable End Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Ordnance Presence:	Uncontaminated

AREA AB@

Size, Acres:	17,663
Former Use:	Safety Area; a sand/gravel 1500 ft X 150 ft landing strip
Present Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Probable End Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Ordnance Presence:	Potential (due to Area C)
Type:	20mm caliber & larger; grenades, HE and practice; practice landmines; small arms; flares; riot control

AREA AC@ (See Issues & Concerns)

Size, Acres:	38,318
Former Use:	DTC Unlimited Firing Area
Present Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Probable End Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Ordnance Presence:	Potential
Type:	20mm caliber & larger; grenades, HE and practice; practice landmines; small arms; flares

AREA AD@

Size, Acres:	7,000
Former Use:	Camp Granite <i>Encampment</i> Area
Present Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Probable End Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Ordnance Presence:	Uncontaminated

AREA **AE@**

* Not part of original INPR

Size, Acres:	6,877
Former Use:	Surrounding Lands - Safety Area Additional Acreage
Present Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Probable End Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Ordnance Presence:	Potential
Type:	20mm caliber & larger; grenades, HE and practice; practice landmines; small arms; flares; riot control <i>Personnel from BLM suspect that a major dump may exist in one portion of Area E. (See Issues & Concerns)</i>

AREA **AF@**

*Not part of original INPR

Size, Acres:	15,275
Former Use:	Firing Range Additional Acreage
Present Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Probable End Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Type:	OE items discovered within the vicinity of these ranges are on display at various places throughout Southern California. Items on display include: 75mm HE projectile; practice hand grenade; 2.36" rocket; M9A1 rifle grenade, M9 AT rifle grenade

AREA **AG@**

*Not part of original INPR

Size, Acres:	2,379
Former Use:	Grenade Range
Present Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Probable End Use:	Recreational and Wildlife Conservation
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Type:	site team observed expended small arms (.30 and .50 cal.) and a 37mm AP projectile
	Potential
Type:	grenades, HE and practice; practice landmines; flares

6. **CURRENT STATUS:** A draft Archive Search Report was completed

by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in September 1996.

7. STRATEGY:

Recommend that District be requested to amend INPR to include areas identified in ASR which lie outside the original FDE.

Area A:	NOFA
Area B:	EE/CA
Area C:	EE/CA
Area D:	NOFA
Area E:	EE/CA
Area F:	EE/CA
Area G:	EE/CA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

Since no individual sub-site scores higher than a RAC 3, recommend that this site be **treated as a RAC 3** instead of the composite score of RAC 2.

An educational program (e.g., signs) may be the most cost-effective solution to this large site.

This site needs to be broken down into more manageable units.

The TAG did not concur with the ASR recommendation to delete Camp Granite as a FUDS.

Travel through the area requires a four-wheel drive vehicle. Endangered species and historical sites may be present. High temperatures are common in the summer months. Water supply is limited. Poisonous snakes may be present. Nearest hospital is more than 45 minutes away.

BLM personnel suspect that two major dumps may exist west of the Camp Granite in T1S, R17E, SEC 34 (Area E) and T2S, R17E, SEC 3 and northeast of Camp Iron Mountain in T1N, R17E, SEC 36.

The encampment areas for Camp Iron Mountain and Camp Granite have been included in the area restricted to ~~A~~surface use only@ due to the possibility of buried landmines. It is believed that no land mines exist in these encampment areas because (a) their inclusion in the ~~A~~surface sweep only@ certificate was probably due to their proximity and to simplify the outlining of the camp's broad area; (b) no ordnance activities occurred within the encampment areas; (c) historical documentation and aerial photos illustrate the areas were heavily populated campsites; and (d) the areas have been heavily searched by treasure hunters and sightseers without

any reportable incidents involving landmines or any type of OE. There has been one documented OE incident involving a practice antitank mine in the vicinity of this area. A WW II practice landmine was discovered on March 15, 1980, approximately five miles northwest of Area C. (See Plate 3.)

BLM placed warning signs on Camp Iron Mountain. However, the signs were removed several years ago. Site preservation and protection are primary concerns of the BLM; they do not want any surface disturbance at the *encampment* area site. The BLM requested that they be notified of any contemplated activity in this area.

Photos within the ASR shows items of ordnance which came from ~~A~~Camp Granite.® (See Photos J-22 and J-23.) These refer to the ranges associated with Camp Granite. No ordnance has been found or is believed to exist in the Camp Granite encampment.

The two camps had six documented maneuver firing ranges and nine fixed firing ranges. Of the 15 documented ranges associated with Iron Mountain and Granite, only portions of the fixed firing ranges were located within Camp Iron Mountain's boundary. Seven of the nine fixed ranges' firing points originated within the boundaries, but the impact areas continue off the camp's boundary. All six of the maneuver ranges lie completely outside of the Camp Iron Mountain's boundaries. A journal article on the DTC depicts an undocumented hand grenade range that borders the camp's boundary. Located halfway between the camp and the western mountains is an extensive grenade throwing range.

There are known Federally- and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities. See Table 3-2 in the Findings for a more complete listing of affected species.

The Iron Mountain Divisional Camp was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in 1977. Today, the site is considered to be eligible and designation is still pending. Any intrusive measure taken within the area will require oversight by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and/or other like organizations. It also appears that one archaeological site and one isolated historic feature are located within the project boundaries. One prehistoric trail runs through the southern portion of the project area. Close coordination with the SHPO should be maintained.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only